Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regarding India's Aviation Safety Oversight System under the International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) programme of FAA. International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) had conducted the audit of India in October 2006 wherein they observed shortage of manpower, which affects its performance. DGCA has started preparing for the reassessment with the available resources and has also initiated interim short term, medium term and long term steps to overcome the shortage of manpower by hiring/appointing experts on secondment to augment the strength of DGCA.

(c) and (d) Presently, India is in Category I. However, various short term and long term measures have been initiated with ICAO assistance to strengthen DGCA to avoid any downgrading in FAA reassessment. A plan outlay of Rs.2.00 crore has been estimated during the year 2009-10 for these National Projects of ICAO.

Dispute of completion of Kusaha embankment

*117. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the breach in the 1.7 km long Kusaha embankment in Nepal caused widespread floods in Bihar during the last year;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government and the State Government of Bihar are disputing each other over completion of work to plug the 1.7 km long breach of the Kusaha embankment in Nepal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that in future such breach in embankments does not occur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The State Government of Bihar constituted a team under Shri N. Sanyal, the retired Engineer-in-Chief and former Chairman, GFCC to advise the Government on Kosi Breach closure in which Member (Coordination), Ganga Flood Control Commission, is a Member from the Government of India. The work of breach closure is going on as per the advice of Kosi Breach Closure Advisory Team (KBCAT). The Central Government is providing all technical assistance and total cost of the closure of breach and related protection works would be borne by the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A High Level Expert Team (HLET) was constituted by Ministry of Water Resources under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) to suggest remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future. HLET has already submitted its report to the Government for consideration. Remedial measures are aimed at preventing recurrence of breach in the embankment.